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From Thursday March 6. to Monday March 10. 1700.

By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

For a General Fast and Humiliation throughout the whole Kingdom.

WILLIAM R.

Whereas the Commons in Parliament assembled, have Humbly besought Us to Appoint a Day of Publick Fasting and Humiliation, to Implore the Blessing of Almighty God upon the Consultations of this Parliament, and for the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, and the Publick Peace; And We being deeply sensible how much the Happiness of Our Kingdoms depends upon the good Success of their Consultations, and out of Our own Religious Disposition, readily to incline to so Pious a Motion, have Resolved (by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council) and do by this Our Royal Proclamation strictly Charge and Command, That a Day of General and Publick Fasting and Humiliation, for the Purposes aforesaid, be strictly Kept and Observed throughout Our Kingdom of England, *Dominion of* Wales, *and Town of* Berwick *upon* Tweed, *on* Friday *the Fourth Day of* April *next. And for the better Solemnizing the same, We have given Directions to the Most Reverend Arch-Bishops and Right Reverend Bishops of this Kingdom, to Compose a Form of Prayer Suitable to this Occasion, to be Used in all Churches and Chapels, and other Places of Publick Worship, and to take Care for the timely Dispersing the same throughout their respective Dioceses. And We do strictly Charge and Command, That the said Day of Fasting and Humiliation be Religiously observed by all our Loving Subjects, as they tender the Favour of Almighty God, and upon Pain of Suffering such Punishment, as may be justly Inflicted for the Contempt or Neglect thereof.*

Given at Our Court at *Kensington* the Sixth Day of *March*, 170⅞. In the Thirteenth Year of Our Reign.

Vienna, March 2. *N. S.* The Emperor's Forces designed for *Italy*, are on their March, and the foremost of them are to halt in the Country of *Tirol*, and secure the Passes, till such time as the rest of the Troops can come up and join them. Several Imperial Regiments are moving towards *Philipsburgh*; and 'tis discoursed at Court, that the King of the *Romans* will Command the Army on the *Rhine*. General *Arco* is gone to his Government of *Brisac*. The Palatine of *Hungary*, and Deputies from the States of that Kingdom, are expected here in few days, to adjust Matters in relation to the Subsidies that are demanded of them. There are Negociations on foot with the Ministers of the King of *Denmark*, the Elector Palatine, and other Princes of *Germany*, about taking their Troops into the Emperor's Service, and particularly the 7000 *Danes* at present in *Saxony*. The States-General of the United Provinces have demanded of the Emperor the Succours stipulated by the Treaties of Alliance between them; and 'tis said, the Forces which the King of *Prussia* puts into the Emperor's Service will be sent to their Assistance.

Francfort, March 9. We have Advice, that 4 Imperial Regiments are come into the Neighbourhood of *Nuremberg*, in their March towards the *Rhine*. Count *Lowenstein*, Envoy from the Emperor, who has lately been at the Diets of the Circles of *Swabia* and *Franconia*, is gone to *Vienna*, to give the Emperor an Account of his Negociation. Letters from *Switzerland* say, the *Grisons* have taken Umbrage at the *French* putting a Garrison into the Fort of *Fuentes* on their Frontiers. Count *Casati*, Envoy from *Spain*, is returned to *Lucern* from *Milan*.

Cologne, March 11. Two Companies of Foot in the Bishop of *Munster*'s Service are come hither from *Coblentz*, and more are expected to reinforce our Garrison.

Hamburgh, March 11. They write from *Coningsberg*, That the King of *Prussia* has resolved to augment his Forces, by adding 20 Men to each Company of Foot, and 10 to each Troop of Horse, and Levies are making accordingly. Letters from *Copenhagen* say, they are fitting out a Squadron of *Danish* Men of War, and that an Order is published there to forbid the Seamen from going out of *Denmark* without Leave. The Advices from *Lithuania* give an Account, that the Czar of *Muscovy* has had an Interview with the King of *Poland* at *Birtzen*, and that Prince *Ferdinand* of *Courland*, Prince *Radzivill*, the Sieur *Oginsky*, and several of the Principal Gentlemen of *Lithuania* are likewise come thither.

Hague, March 15. The Deputies of the States-General, in their Conference with the *French* Ambassador on the 10th Instant, did, in answer to his last Memorial, acquaint him, *That the States are very glad to find by the said Memorial, That the Most Christian King looks upon their Acknowledging th K. of* Spain, *as a Mark of their Desire to maintain the Peace, as indeed they made this Step to give a convincing Proof of their real Inclination for the Preservation of the Peace, and are ready to give all farther Demonstrations thereof that are in their Power; That it was likewise a great Satisfaction to the States to receive by the said Memorial, and by his Majesty's Letter, wherein he was pleased to answer them in so Obliging a manner, a Confirmation of his Majesty's favourable Sentiments for the Preservation of the* Peace *of* Europe, *and the Security and Commerce of this State; And since his Majesty is pleased, that his giving Liberty to the Troops of this State in the* Spanish *Garrisons to return home, should be looked upon as a certain Sign of these his good Intentions, they are expecting the full Effect of the same; For they cannot see without trouble, that the greatest part of their Forces are still detained, notwithstanding they have demanded them, and have repeated their Instances that the said Troops may return hither, in pursuance of the Permission granted so long ago by his Majesty; That the States desire nothing more earnestly, than*